



Division of Drinking Water Response to 2017 Wildfires

WQCC

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Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board

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Role of DDW In Fire Response

- Like Regional Boards, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) engages in direct, field-level implementation and oversight. We:
 - Assess fire impact on drinking water supplies and water system infrastructure
 - Assist in identifying needs and informing appropriate responders
 - Assist in bringing water systems back to normal as quickly as possible
 - Participate in SEMS as appropriate, via SOC, local Operational Areas, and Division Response Center
 - Protect public health by ensuring that drinking water is safe, or that consumers are notified

Immediate Impacts on DDW

- October 9, 2017: multiple fires start overnight in North Bay counties (and elsewhere). Hundreds of structures and many thousands of acres consumed by morning, thousands evacuated.
- DDW Santa Rosa staff responsible for all affected water systems, but many are evacuated and all are affected by fire conditions.
- DDW Santa Rosa office stays open with skeleton crew for initial response; others work from wherever they can.
- DDW mobilizes statewide to support response effort.



DDW Response

- Day 1: Tasked GIS-savvy staff with generating list of possibly impacted systems (initial list contained about 130).
- Immediately began contacting affected systems.
- Created tracking spreadsheet for internal use and external stakeholders (SOC, local EOCs, CalWARN) – in use by Day 2.

Priority Flag	County	District #	System #	System Name	Service Connections	Population Served	Status Code	Public Notice	Comments
CLEAR	SONOMA	18	4900580	SONOMA MOUNTAIN COUNTY WATER	55	130	E		10/17 Sonoma Mountain County Water without any damage. Our hydrants were and the firefighters were able to keep the Crane Canyon Road. EARLIER UPDATE W being used to fight fire.
URGENT	SONOMA	18	4900585	BENNETT RIDGE MUTUAL WATER COM	128	200	D	DND	10/24: Staff conducted damage assessm may have contaminated the water. Syst monitoring to lift DND. 10/21: Placed sys reentry. 10/20: Spoke to Michael Wright there are any water system needs. 10/19 and he said that there are about 35 home repopulated once the evacuation order is have special access to all parts of the wat has some fire damage to the control syst superficial damage to the rooftop. There tanks for PG&E/operator crew to use. Th placed on a BWN once residents move bi water. Rick Rogers - 10/9 2:25 pm - ~90% water system likely gone T. Judson - no w underground so may be ok. Only about 3
CLEAR	SONOMA	18	4900587	BRAND WATER COMPANY	34	95	N	Lifted	10/23 - received voicemail from Gary Mic did lose power. Took 2 samples on 2 cons: Lifted BWN. 10/19 11:07: Spoke to Shari water system does not have damage to i

* CalWARN = California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network

DDW Response

- Began feeding updates to SOC, participating in CalWARN daily phone meetings.
- Day 4: Activated Division Response Center to organize and distribute response effort, relieve Santa Rosa staff.
- Following drought response experience, used “virtual” DRC to allow for division-wide support.
- Day 8: began attending Utilities Meetings at local ICC, to help coordinate repopulation. (Before this, local response was focused primarily on the fire threat.)
- Day 15: Santa Rosa office ready to resume normal operations, DRC deactivated.

Response Tools

- Asked DIT to create new platforms to support response: generic Emergency Response email, SharePoint site, phone hotline.

WB-DDW-emergency-response

Inbox

Auto Replies

Closed

Non-emergency

Drafts

Sent Items

Deleted Items

Archive

Junk Email

Outbox

SIZE

FROM

SUBJECT

RECEIVED

1 MB

Victoria Kunda

4910023-Larkfield-October2017- Analytical Reports

Tue 10/17/2017 12:...

Janice, Please find attached final analytical report for the following sampling events in Larkfield water

71 KB

Julie

RE: FIRE UPDATE REQUESTED - SWRCB Division of Dri...

Tue 10/17/2017 11:...

Thank you Philip. Julie Cavaz Penngrove / Kenwood Water Company

37 KB

Thomas, Janice@Waterboards

RE: RWQCB 1 and 2 Staff Resources Disaster assistanc...

Tue 10/17/2017 10:...

Thanks, Mark. I remember on the call Thursday that Darrin mentioned a funding program with DFA for

441 KB

Bartson, Mark@Waterboards

FW: RWQCB 1 and 2 Staff Resources Disaster assistan...

Tue 10/17/2017 9:3...

Janice/Sheri – Matt St. John, Exec officer or RWQCB 1, sent me these documents which RWQCB 1 and 2 are

30 KB

WB-DDW-emergency-response

FW: Customer Call

Tue 10/17/2017 8:3...

Has anyone made contact with this customer? Philip Dutton, P.E. Associate Sanitary Engineer SWRCB

54 KB

Lori Wyatt

RE: Utility Coordination

Mon 10/16/2017 6:...

Thanks Nathan, To clarify a couple points,

22 KB

Thomas, Janice@Waterboards

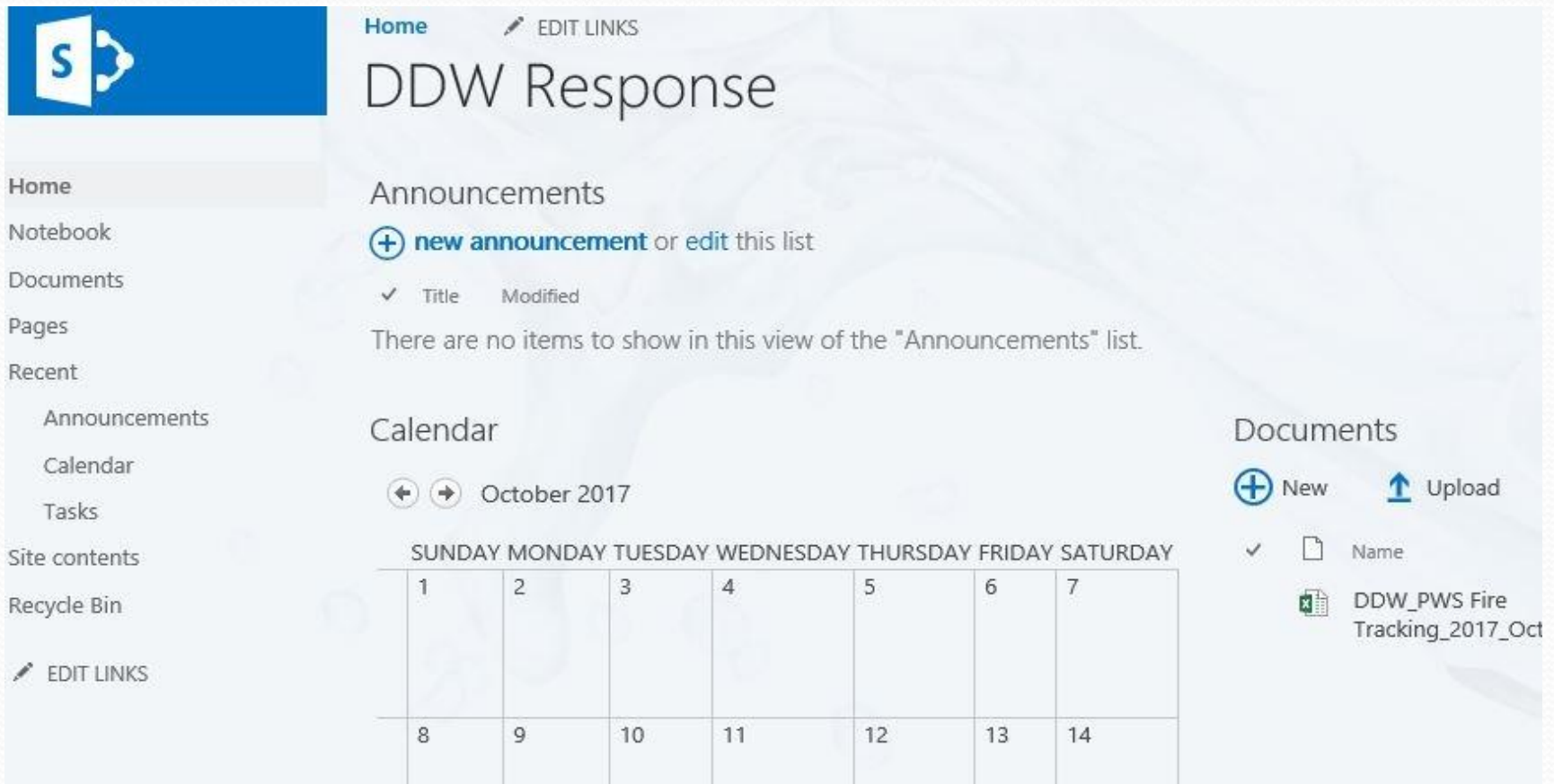
RE: City of Santa Rosa

Mon 10/16/2017 5:...


Yes, they plan to lift the boil. I sent that up to the folks who are updating the spreadsheet. Thanks, Janice

SharePoint Site

- Cloud-based collaboration




The screenshot shows a SharePoint site interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with links: Home (selected), Notebook, Documents, Pages, Recent, Announcements, Calendar, Tasks, Site contents, and Recycle Bin. At the bottom of the sidebar is an 'EDIT LINKS' icon. The main content area has a title 'DDW Response' and an 'EDIT LINKS' link. Below the title is an 'Announcements' section with a '+ new announcement' button and a link to 'edit this list'. A table header shows 'Title' and 'Modified', followed by the text 'There are no items to show in this view of the "Announcements" list.' Below this is a 'Calendar' section for 'October 2017'. The calendar grid shows days 1 through 14. To the right of the calendar is a 'Documents' section with '+ New' and 'Upload' buttons. Below these buttons is a table header with 'Name' and a list item 'DDW_PWS Fire Tracking_2017_Oct' with a document icon.

Home  EDIT LINKS



DDW Response

Announcements

 [new announcement](#) or [edit this list](#)



✓	Title	Modified
There are no items to show in this view of the "Announcements" list.		



Calendar

  October 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Documents

 New  Upload

✓		Name
		DDW_PWS Fire Tracking_2017_Oct

Response Tools

- Documented “live” SOPs using OneNote on shared drive.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft OneNote interface. The title bar includes the ribbon tabs: File, Home, Insert, Draw, History, Review, and View. The user's name, 'Cajina, Stefan@Wa', is visible in the top right. The notebook name is 'OneNote_Fire Response_201...'. The current page is titled 'DDW Fire Response Operations Team' and is dated 'Thursday, October 12, 2017' at '12:14 PM'. The page content features a 'ROTATION SCHEDULE' section with two tables. The first table lists the transition of the Operations Chief from Stefan Cajina to Betsy Lichti, and then to Sheri Miller. The second table lists the assignments for Op Staff, including Jonathan Weininger, Philip Dutton, and Alla Lilichenko, along with their transition dates and assignments to various Sonoma County units.

File Home Insert Draw History Review View Cajina, Stefan@Wa

OneNote_Fire Response_201... Division Response Center System FR Ops Team Tracking ... + Search (Ctrl+E)

DDW Fire Response Operations Team

Thursday, October 12, 2017 12:14 PM

ROTATION SCHEDULE

Operations Chief	Start Date	End Date	Transition to:
Stefan Cajina	10/9/17	10/16/17	Betsy Lichti
Betsy Lichti	10/17/17	10/24/17	Sheri Miller
Sheri Miller	10/24/17		

Op Staff	Start Date	End Date	Transition to:	Assignment
Jonathan Weininger	10/12/17	10/16/17	Shaminder Kler	Non-Sonoma Co WSs
Philip Dutton	10/13/17	10/17/17	Samantha Mak	Sonoma Co. CWSs
Alla Lilichenko	10/16/17	10/18/17	Vlad Rakhamimov	Sonoma Co. NCWSs

+ Add Page

DDW Fire Response Oper

FR Ops SOPs

Future Ops Staff Sign-Up

Immediate Concerns

- Destruction of water system facilities.
- Access to critical WS infrastructure during evacuations.
- Haz mat removal at WS facilities.
- Compromised water quality – need for public notification as evacuations are lifted.
- “Clearing” water systems through inspection and sampling.
- Staff safety in fire zone.



Pump Station
Redwood Valley
County Water District

Production Building Paradise Ridge Winery



Long-term Concerns

- Burned watershed – effects on Water Quality:
 - General treatability of water laden with ash or sediment
 - Excessive sludge production
 - Disinfection byproducts due to excessive TOC
- Financial recovery of water systems
 - Adequate records for FEMA claims
 - Need for additional treatment in near-mid term? (E.g., GAC contactors for TOC removal)
 - Availability and timeliness of financial assistance
 - Sustainability – opportunities for consolidation?



Lessons Learned

- Information Technology made a giant difference, allowing live collaboration and workload distribution across many offices.
- Early – and continuous – establishment of SOPs allowed new staff to get quickly up to speed.
- Ensure staff have basic training in ICS, SEMS, FEMA
- Live answer on phone line preferable to recorded message.
- We need improved WS mapping tools that can easily be shared with other responders.
- Many more, once we stop to reflect!



Contact Information

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